FOUNDATION

OF CHRISTIAN RELIGION,
GATHERED INTO SIXE
PRINCIPLES. Perkers (1)

And it is to be learned of

ignorant people, that they may be fit to heare Sermons with profit, and to receive the Lords Supper with comfort,

PSAL. 119. verf. 130.

The Entrance into thy word . Themeth light, and giveth under flanding to the simple.



LONDON,

Printed by Iohn Legatt, and are to bee fold by Robert Allott, at the figne of the Beare in Pauls Church-yard, 1629. To Learned To Learned To the control of the control



To all ignorant people that defire to be instructed.



Oore people, your manner is to soothe up your selues, as though you were in a most happy estate: but if the matter come to suft triall . it will fall out farre other_

wise. For yee leade your lines in great igno. rance, as may appeare by these common opinions which follow.

1. That faith is a mans good meaning

and his feruing of God.

2. That God is served by the rehearfing of the tenne Commandements, the Lords prayer, and the Creede.

3. That yee have beleeved in Christ

euer fince you could remember.

4. That it is pitie that he should line which doth any whit doubt of his faluation.

5. That none can tell whether he shall be faued or no certainly: but that all men

must be of a good beliefe.

6. That howfoener a man line, yet if he call vpon God on his death-bedde, and fay, Lord have mercy on mee, and for

goe away like a lambe, he is certainly fa-

7 That if any be strangely visited, he is either taken with a planet, or bewitched.

8 That a man may lawfully sweare when he speaketh nothing but the truth: and sweares by nothing, but that which is good, as by his faith and troth.

9 That a Preacher is a good man no longer then he is in the pulpit, They thinke

all like themselues.

will, because the Scripture saith, At what time soeuer a sinner doth repent him of his sinne, &c.

11 That it is an easier thing to please

God, then to please our neighbour.

12 That yee can keepe the commandements as well as God will give you leave.

13 That it is fafest to doe in religion

as most doe.

14 That merry ballads and bookes, as Skoggin, Benis of South-hampton, &c. are good to drive away the time, and to remooue heart-qualmes.

15 That yee ferue God with all your hearts: and that you would be forry else.

6 That

16 That a man need not heare so many fermons, except he could follow them better.

17 That a man which commeth at no Sermons, may as well believe, as hee which heares all the Sermons in the world.

18 That ye know all the Preacher can tell you. For he can say nothing, but that enery man is a sinner, that wee must loue our neighbours as our selues, that enery man must be saued by Christ: and all this ye can tell as well as he.

19 That it was a good world, when the old religion was, because all things

were cheape.

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alehouse or tauerne is good fellowship, and shewes a good kind nature, and maintaines neighbourhood.

Masse, because it is nothing now: and byr Lady, because she is gone out of the countrey.

22 That every man must bee for him-

selfe, and God for vs all.

23 That a man may make of his owne what foeuer he can.

24 That if a man remember to fay

his prayers in the morning (though hee neuer vnderstand them) he hath blessed himselfe for all the day following.

25. That a man prayeth when he faith

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the ten Commandements.

26. That a man eates his Maker in the Sacrament.

27. That if a man be no adulterer, no theefe, no murtherer, and doe no man harme, he is a right honest man.

28. That a man neede not have any knowledge of religion, because he is not

book-learned.

29. That one may have a good meaning, when hee faith and doth that which is cuill.

30. That a man may goe to wizzards called wife-men, for counfell: because God hath prouided a salue for every sore.

31. That yee are to be excused in all your doings, because the best men are

finners.

32. That yee haue so strong a faith in Christ, that no euill company can hurt you.

These and such like sayings, what argue they but your grosse ignerance? Now where The Epiftle.

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ignorance reignesb, there raignes finne; and where fin raignes, there the dinell rules; and where he rules, men are in a damnable case.

Tewill reply unto me thus: That ye are not folded as I would make you. If need be, you can fay the Creed, the Lords Prayer, and the ten Commandements: and therefore ye will be of Gods beliefe, say all men what they will; and you defie the divell from your hearts.

fanswer againe, That it is not sufficient to say all these without booke, who see you for an understand the meaning of the words, and be able to make a right wise of the Commandements, of the Creed, of the Lords Prayer, by applying them inwardly to your bearts and consciences, and outwardly to your lines and conversation. This is the very point in which ye faile.

And for an helpe in this your ignerance, to bring you to true knowledge, unfained faith and sound repentance, here have I set downe the principal points of Christian Religion in sixe plains and easie Rules, even such as the simplest may easily learne; and bereunto it adioyned an exposition of them, word by word. If yee doe want other good directions, then use this my labour for your good instruction. In reading of it, first learne the sixe Principles; and when you have them without

The Epistle.

booke, and the meaning of them withall, then learne the exposition also: which beeing well conceived, and in some measure felt in the heart, yee shall bee able to profit by Sermons, whereas now ye cannot: and the ordinary parts of the Catechisme, namely, the ten Commandements, the Creede, the Lords prayer, and the institution of the two Sacraments, shall be more easily understood.

Thine in Christ Iesus,

50 10 8991

William Perkins.



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The Foundation of Christian Religion gathered into fixe Principles.

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The first Principle.

Question.

WHat doest thou beleeue concerning God.

A. There is one God, Creator and gouernour of all things, diftinguished into the Father, the Son, and the holy Ghost.

Proofes out of the Word of God.

1. There is a God.

For the invisible things of him, that is, his Rom. 1. eternall power and Godhead, are seeneby the creation of the world, being considered in his works, to the intent that they should be with-out excuse.

Neuerthelesse, he loft not himselfe without AA. 14. 17. witnes, in that he did good, and gaue vs raine from heaven, and fruitfull seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladnesse.

2. There is one God.

Concerning therefore meates facrificed to 1 Cor.8.4.

dale

idols, we know that an idoll is nothing in the world: and that there is none other God but one.

3. He is Creator of all things.

Gen. 1. 1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Heb. 11. 3. Through faith we understand, that the world was ordained by the Word of God: so that the things which we see, are not made of things which did appeare.

4. He is governour of all things.

Prov. 15. 3. The eyes of the Lord in enery place behold

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Prou. 15.3. The eyes of the Lord in enery place behold the enill and the good. Mat. 10.30. Tea, and all the haires of our heads are numbred.

Mat.g. 16.

Verse 17.

I loh.5.7.

Distinguished into the Father, the Sonne, and the holy Ghost.

And Iesus when her was baptized, came straight out of the mater: and loe, the heamens were opened unto him, and Iohn saw the Spirit of God descending like a Done, and lighting upon him.

And loe, a voice came from heaven, saying,

This is my well beloved Sonne, in whom I am well pleased.

For there are three which beare record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the holy Ghost, and these three are one.

The fecond Principle.

Q. What doest thou beleeve concerning man, and concerning thine owne felfe?

A. All men are wholly corrupted with finne through Adams fall, and so are become slaues of Saian, and guiltie of eternall damnation.

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All men are corrupted with finne.

As it is written, There is none righteons, Rom. 3. 10. no not one.

2. They are wholly corrupted.

Now the very God of peace sanctifie you i The S.23 throughout, and I pray God that your whole spirit, and soule, and body, may beekept blamelesse vnto the comming of our Lord Ie-sus Christ.

This I say therefore and testifie in the Eph.4. 17. Lord, that yee henceforth walke not as other Gentiles walke in vanitie of their minds.

Hauing their cogitations darkened, and Verse 18. being strangers from the life of God, through the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardnesse of their hearts.

When the Lord saw that the wickednesse Genes.s. of man was great in the earth, and all the immaginations of the thoughts of his heart were enely enill continually.

3. Through Adams fall.

Wherefore as by one man sinne entred into the world, and death by sinne, and so death went oner all men, for so much as all men have sinned.

4. And so are become slaves of Satan.

Wherein times past ye walked according to the course of the world, and after the Prince that ruleth in the ayre, even the spirit that now worketh in the children of disbedience.

Eph.2.1.

Heb.3.14

Gal.3.10.

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now morketh in the children of disobedience.

For as much then as the children were partaker of slesh and blood, he also himselfe like-

wife tooke part with them, that he might defirry through death, him that had the power of death, that is the dissell. In whom the god of this world hath blind-

2 Con4.4. ed the minds, that is, of Infidels, that the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, which is the image of God should not shine vnto them.

5. And guilty of eternall damnation.

For as many as are of the workes of the Law, are under the curse: for it is written,

Eursed is enery man that continueth not in all things, which are written in the booke of the Law, to doe them. Likewise then as by of Christian Religion.

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the offence of one, the fault came on all mento Rom. 5. 18. sondemnation: so by the instifying of one, the henefit abounded toward all men to the instification of life.

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The third Principle.

Q. What meanes is there for thee to escape this damnable estate.

A. Iesus Christ the eternall Sonne of

God, being made man, by his death vpon the Crosse, and by his righteousnesse, hath perfectly alone by himselfe, accomplished all things that are needfull for the saluation of man.

1. Iesus Christ the eternall
Sonne of God.

And the Wordwas made flesh, and dwelt Ioh. 1.14. among vs, and we saw the glory thereof, as the glory of the onely begotten (Sonne) of the Father, full of grace and truth.

2. Being mademan.

For he in no fort tooke the Angels, but bee Heb.2.16. tooke the seede of Abraham.

3. By his death vpon the Crosse.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, Esa. 53.5.

he was broken for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his

stripes we are healed.

4. And by his righteoufnesse.

For as by one mans disobedience many Rom. 5. 19.

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Sixe Principles were made sinners, so by the obedience of one Shall many bee made righteous. For he hath made him to bee sinne for vs 3 Cor.5. 21. which knew no sinne, that we should be made the righteousnesse of God in him. 5. Hath perfectly. Heb.7. 25. Wherefore hee is able also perfectly to saus them that come vnto God by him, feeing he ea ner lineth to make intercession for them. 6. Alone by himfelfe. Neither is there saluation in any other: A& 4. 12. fo among men there is given none other name under heaven, whereby we must be saued. 7. Accomplished all things needfull for the faluation of mankinde. # loh.2.2. And he is the reconciliation for our sinnes; and not for ours onely, but also for the sinnes: of the whole world. The fourth Principle. up Q. But how must thou be made partaker of Christ and his benefits? A. A man of a contrite and humble 80 spirit, by faith alone apprehending and applying Christ with all his merits vnto himselfe, is instified before God, and san-Ctified.

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of Christian Religion. . A man of a contrite and humble spirit. For thus faith hee that is high and excel-Ecasy. 15. lent, He that inhabiteth the eternitie, whose name is the Holy one; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble first, to reusue the first of the humble, and to give life to them that are of a contrite heart. The sacrifices of God, are a contrite spirit, Pfal. 51. 17. a contrite and a broken heart, O God, thon wilt not defpife. 2. By faith alone. As soone as Tesus heard that word spoken, hee said unto the ruler of the Synagogue, Mark. 5. 36. Be not afraid, onely beleene. So Moses made a serpent of brase, and set Num. 21.9. it up for a signe, and when a serpent had bitten a man, then hee looked to the serpent of braffe, and lined. And as Mofes lift up the Serpent in the Ich.3.14. wildernesse so must the Sonne of man be lifted vp. That who soener beleeneth in him should Verse 15. Bot perish, but have eternall life. 3. Apprehending and applying Christ with all his merits vnto himfelfe. But as many as receised him, to them he loh. 1.12.

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ginen, and whose sinnes are concred. 5. And fanctified.

And hee put no difference betweene vs and them, after that by faith he had purified their

But ye are of him in Christ Iesus, who of I Cor. 1.30. God is made vnto vs wisedome, and righteoufnesse, and fanitification, and redemption.

Ad. 15.9.

The fifth Principle.

Q. What are the ordinary or vsuall meanes for obtaining of faith?

A. Faith commeth onely by the preaching of the Word, and increaseth daily by it: as also by the administration of the Sacraments and Prayer.

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But how shall they call on him, in whom Rom. 10. 14 they have not beleened? how shall they beleene in him, of whom they have not heard, and how shall they heare without a Preacher? Where there is no vision, the people decay, Pro.29.18. but he that keepeth the law, is bleffed. My people are destroyed for lacke of know- Hos.4.6. ledge: because thou hast refused knowledge, I wil also refuse thee, that thou shalt be no Priest to me: and seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. 2. As also by the administration of the Sacraments. After he received the signe of circumcision, Rom.4.11. a of as the seale of the righteousnes of faith, which otehe had when he was uncircumcifed, that hee should be the Father of all them that beleeve, not being circumcifed; that righteousnesse might be imputed to them also. fuall Moreover, brethren, I would not that yee I Cor. 10. 1. hould be ignorant, that all our fathers were reaunder the cloude, and all passed through the aily Ra, O.C. the And Prayer. For who sener shall call upon the name Rom. 10.12.

of Christian Religion. 1. Faith commeth onely by the preaching of the Word, and increafeth daily by it.

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of the Lord shall be saued.

The fixt Principle.

Q. What is the estate of all men after death?

A. All men shall rife againe with their owne bodies, to the last judgement; which being ended, the godly shall posfesse the kingdome of heauen : but vnbeleeuers and reprobates shall be in hell tormented with the diuelland his angels for

1. All men shall rife againe with their owne bodies.

I loh. 5. 28. Maruell not at this: for the houre shall come, in the which all that are in the grave

(hall heare his voice. Versc 29. · And they shall come forth that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; but they

that have done enill, unto the resurrection of condemnation.

2. To the last Iudgement. Eccl. 12.14.

For God will bring enery worke unto indgement with enery secret thing, whether it be good or enill.

But I say unto you, that of enery idle word, Mat. 12.36. that men speake, they shall give an account thereof at the day of judgement.

3. Which being ended, the godly,&c.

And delinered inst Lot, vexed with the 2 Pet.2.7.

of Christian Religion. uncleane connersation of the wicked. And the Lord faid vinto him, Goe thorow Ezek.9.4.

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the midst of the City, even thorow the midst of Ierusalem, and set a marke upon the foreheads of them that mourne, and cry out for all the abominations that bee done in the midst thereof.

4. Shall possesse the Kingdome of God. Then shall the King say to them on his Mat. 25.31.

right hand, Come yee bleffed of my Father, inherite yee the kingdome prepared for you from the beginning of the world. 5. But vibeleeuers and reprobates shall be in hell, tormented with the

dinell and his angels-Then shall kee say vnto them on the left Versc 41. hand, Depart from mee yee curfed, into euerlasting fire, which is prepared for the disell

The Scriptures for the proofe were only quoted by the author, to mooue thee to fearch them: the words themselves I haue expressed at the earnest request of many, that thou maiest more easily learne them: If yet thou wilt be ignorant, thy ma-

ent lice is euident; if thou gainest knowledge, cc. gine God the glory in doing his will. Thine, T. S.

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THE EXPOSITION OF

The Principles.

The first Principle expounded.

Question.

Ich. 4. 24. tuall substance, most wise, most holy, eter-

nall, infinite.

Q. How doe you perswade your selfe that there is such a God?

A. Besides the testimony of the Scripture, plaine reason will shew it.

Q. What is one reason?

A. When I consider (b) the wonderRom. 1.20 full frame of the world, me thinkes, such
Acts 24. 17. filly creatures that bee in it, could neuer
make it; neither could it make it selfe; and
therefore besides althese, the maker of it
must needs be God. Euen as when a man
comes into a strange countrey, and sees
faire and sumptuous buildings, and yet
sindes no living creatures there besides
birds and beasts, he will not imagine that
either birds or beasts reared those buildings, but he presently conceives, that some
men either are, or have bin there.

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d I Cor. 8.6.

Q. What other reasons have you?

A.(c) A man that commits any finne, c Rom.2.15 as murther, fornication, adultery, blafphe-Gen. 3.8, mie, &c. albeit he doth so conceale the 9,10.and matter, that no man living know of it, yet 42.41. oftentimes he hath a griping in his conscience, and feeles the very flashing of hell fire; which is a strong reason to shew that there is a God, before whose iudgement feate hee must answer for his fact.

Q. How many Gods are there?

A. No(d)more but one.

Q. How doe you conceine this one God in your mind?

A. Not(e) by framing any image of Deut. 4.16 him in my minde (as ignorant folkes do, Amos 4. 13. that thinke him to bee an old man fitting in heaven) but I conceive him by his properties and workes.

Q. What be his chiefe properties?

A. First, he is (f) most mise, vnderstan-flob.12.3.

ding all things aright, and knowing the reason of them. Secodly, he is (g) most holy, Exo.20.56. which appeareth in that he is most inst, and mercifull vnto his creatures. Thirdly, hee is(h) eternall, without either begin-h EG. 41. 4. ning, or end of dayes. Lastly, he is infinite, i Pfa. 139.all

both because he is present in all places,

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m Mar. 10. A. Toomit the (m) Scriptures, I fee it by experience: (a) Meate, drinke, and Pro.16.33. cloathing, being void of heate and life, Leuit. 26.

1 Job 9.4.

Pfal.33.9.

26.

Mat.4.4.

Mar.3.16.

I oh. 15.

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there were a speciall providence of God to gine vertue vnto them.

Q. How is this one God diftinguifhed?

could not preserve the life of man, vnlesse

A. (o) Into the Father, which begetor Ioh. 5.7 teth the Sonne: into the Sonne, who is begotten of the Father: into the (p) boly Ghost, who proceedeth from the Father and the Sonne.

The Second Principle expounded.

Q. Let vs now come to our selues, and first tell me what the naturallestate of manis? Tolke tooling warner A. Euery man is by nature (q) dead in

Eph.2.1. Tim. 5,6. finne, as a lothfome carrion, or as a dead

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corps lying rotting and stinking in the grave, having in him the seede of all sins.

Q. What is sinne?

A. Any breach of the Law of God, 'Ioh.3.4. if it be no more but the least want of that Rom.7.7. which the Law requireth.

Q. How many forts of finnes are

there?

A. Sinne is feither the corruption of [Gal.3.9. nature, or any euill actions that proceede Pfal. 51.5. of it, as fruits thereof.

Q. In whom is the corruption of na-

ture?

A. In all men, t none excepted. Rom.3.10.

Q. In what part of man is it?

A. In every " part both of body and "Gen.6.5. foule, like as a leprofie that runneth from I Thef.5.23 the crowne of the head, to the foale of the foote.

Q. Shew mee how every part of man

iscorrupted with finne?

A. First, in the x minde, there is no-x 1 Cor. 2. thing but ignorance and blindnesse con-Rom. 8.5. cerning heavenly matters. Secondly, y the conscience is desiled, being al-y Tit. 1.15. waies either benummed with sin, or else Eph. 4. 18, turmoiled with inward accusations and Esa. 57.20. terrours. Thirdly, z the will of man on-z Phil. 2. 13 ly willeth and lusteth after euill. Fourth-Iob 15.16.

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A. By (e) Adams infidelity and disobedience, ineating the forbidden fruit: euen as we see great personages by treason do not onely hurt themselves, but also stain their blood, and disgrace their poste-

Q. What hurt comes to man by his finne?

A. f Hee is continually subject to the

of his life, and after this life.

O. What

VVIId

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of Christian Religion. Q. What is the corfe of God in this life? A. In the g body, diseases, aches, paines: in the foule, blindnesse, hardnes of heart, g Deu. 28. horror of conscience: in goods, hinderan-65,66,97, ces and losses: in name, ignominy and reproch: Laftly, in the whole man, bondage e under Satanthe Prince of darknes. Q. What manner of bondage is this? t A. This (h) bondage is when is a man is h Heb.2.14. the slave of the divell, and hath him to Eph.2.2. raigne in his heart as his god. Q. How may a man know whether Luk. 11.21. Satan be his god, or not? A. He may know by this: if hee gine obedience to him in his heart, and expresse 11 it in his conversation. Q. And how shall a man perceive this obedience: A. If he(i)take delight in the euill mo_ i loh. 8.44. tions that Satan puts in his heart, and doe 1 loh.3.8. fulfill the lusts of the dinell. Q. What is the curse due to man in the end of this life? A.(k) Death, which is the separation (Rom. 5.12 is of body and foule. 1Gal. 3. 10. Q. What is the curse after this life? e Rom.3.19. d A. (1) Eternall damnation in hell fire, whereof enery man is guiltie, and is in as at

great danger of it, as the traytour apprehended is in danger of hanging, drawing and quartering.

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The third Principle expounded.

Q. If damnation bee the reward of finne, then is a man of all creatures most miserable. A dog or a toad, when they dye, all their misery is ended: but when a man dyeth, there is the beginning of his

A. It were so indeed, if there were no meanes of deliuerance: but God hath shewed his mercy in giuing a Sautour to mankinde.

Q. How is the Sauiour called?

m Mat. 1.21. A. m Iesus Christ?

woe.

n Heb.2.16.

Q. What is Iesus Christ?

A. The n eternall Son of God, made

Ioh.1.14. man in all things, euen o in his infirmities oHcb.5.7. like other men fore onely in finne

Mat. 13.32. like other men, faue onely in finne.

Q. How was hee made man voide of finne?

of a Virgin, and sanstified by the Holy Ghost at his conception.

Q. Why must our Sauiour bee both God and man?

A. He q must be a man, because man had sinned, and therefore a man must die

of Christian Religion. y for fin, to appeale Gods wrath he must eGod, to fultaine and vphold the mangood to ouercome and vanquish death. Q. What be the offices of Christ to make him an all-furficient Saujour? A. (r) He is a Priest, a Prophet, a King. r Psal. 45. 7. Luke 4. 18. Q. Why is he a Prieft? Deut. 18.15 A. To worke the meanes of faluation 38. nthe behalfe of man-kind. Luke 1.33. Q. How doth he worke the meanes of Pfal. 10.2. aluation? A. (f) First, by making satisfaction to his Mat. 20.28 Father for the sinne of man: secondly, by 26. making intercession. Q. How doth he make fatisfaction? A. By two meanes: and the first is by offering a sacrifice. Q. What is this facrifice? A. (1) Christ himselfe as he is man tEsa.53.10 confifting of body and foule. Q. What is the (n) Altar? u Apoc. 8.3. A. Christas heis God, is the Altar on Hcb. 13.10. which he facrificed himfelfe. Q. Who was the Priest? A. None(x)but Christ, and that as he x Heb. 5.5.6 is both God and man. Q. How oft did he facrifice himfelfe? A. Neuer but (y) once. Q. What death did he fuffer, when he Heb.9.28.

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- Sixe Principles facrificed himselfe. A. A death upon the crosse, peculiar to him alone: for * besides the separation x Efa.53.5. pea Ioh.12.27. of soule and body, he felt also the pangs of kin Reu. 19. 16. hell, in that the whole wrath of God, due kep Luk.22.44. to the sinne of man, was powred forth vpon him. Q. What profit commeth by hisfacrifice? wa A. Gods a wrath is appealed by it. a Heb.9. 26. do Q. Could the fufferings of Christ, WO which were but a short time, counteruaile ho euerlasting damnation, and so appease Gods wrath? A. Yea . for feeing Christ suffered, 6 Act.20. vp h God suffered, though not his Godhead: 28. and that is more then if all men in the me z Cor.5. 15. world had fuffered for ever. al Q. Now tell mee the other meanes of Satisfaction? ro A. It is the perfect fufilling of the law. dy Q. How did he fulfill the law? th A. By his perfect righteousnesse which po consists of two parts: the first, the cintegrity and purenes of his humane nature: cI Cor.I. 30. the other, d his obedience in performing all Rom. 3.25. fp that the law requireth. 3 Cor.5.21. Q. You have shewed how Christ dRom .5.1. d oth make satisfaction, tell mee likewise

now doth he make intercession?

liar A. Hee alone doth continually (d)ap-d Rom. 8.34 ion peare before his Father in heauen, ma- 1 Pet. 2. 5.

of king the faithfull and all their prayers aclue reptable vnto him, by applying of the rth merits of his owne perfect fatisfaction to them.

Q. Why is Christa Prophet?

A. To (e) reneale vnto his Church the eloh.6.45. way and meanes of faluation: and this hee doth outwardly by the ministery of his word, and inwardly by the teaching of his holy Spirit.

Q. Why is he also a King?

A. That (f) he might bountifully beston f Esa.9.7. d: vpon vs and conney vnto vs all the forefaid he meanes of faluation.

Q. How doth he shew himselfe to be

of aKing?

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A. In 8 that being dead and buried, he gAd. 10.40 rose from the grave, quickned his dead bo- Ad. 1.9. dy, ascended into heaven, and now sitteth at the right hand of his Father, with full

e. power and glory in heauen.

Q. Howelfe?

A. In h that he doth continually in-hEla.9.7. spire and direct his servants by the divine and 30.21. power of his holy Spirit, according to his holy Word.

Sixe Principles - 22 Q. Butto whom will this bleffed Kin communicate all these meanes of saluati on? fi i Mat. 20. 16 A. He (i) offereth them to many and Ioh.I.II. they are sufficient to faue all mankind: but 2 Ioh. 2. 2. all thall not be faued thereby, because by faith they will not receive them. V The fourth Principle expounded. ŀ Q. What is faith? A. Faith is a (k) wonderfull grace of k Joh. I. II God, by which a man doth apprehend and 6.35. and apply Christ and all his benefits vnto Gal.3.7. Col. 2. 12. himselfe. Q. How doth a manapply Christ vn to himfelfe, feeing wee are on earth, and Christ in Heaven 200 yours 100 A. This 1 applying is done by affir ance; I 2 Cor. I. 20, 22. when a man is verily perfwaded by the Rom.8 19. holy Spirit, of Gods fauour toward himselfe particularly, and of the forgivenesse GA OT BAS of his owne finnes. 3. A. E. C. . 27 E Q. How doth God bring mentruely to beleeve in Christ ? A. First he prepareththeir hearts that they might be capable of faith, and then he worketh faith in them Q. How doth God prepare mens hearts? A. m By bruifing them, as if one would m Ezc.11.19 Hof.6.1,2. breake an hard stone to powder : and

Sixe Principles 24 flity, h wealth, good i name, k though it bt h VIII. be but in the fecret thoughts and motions iIX. kX. of the heart, vnto which thou ginest no C liking or consent. Q. What is forrow for finne? A. It is when a mans conscience is IA&2.37. touched with a linely feeling of Gods dif-38. m Cant.5.4. pleasure for any of these finnes, m in such m I Tim. I. wise that he vtterly despaires of saluation Luk. 15. 21. in regard of any thing in himselfe, acfr Ezra.9.6, 7. knowledging that hee hath deserved th Thame and confusion eternally. Q. How doth God worke this for-A. By the terrible curse of the law. Q. What is that? A. He " which breakes but one of the n Gal.3. 10. commandements of God, though it bee but once in all his lifetime, and that onely in one thought, is subject to, and in danger ci tl of eternall damnation thereby. lo Q. When mens hearts are thus prepared, how doth God ingraft faith in them? fu A. By working certaine inward motions in the heart, which are the feeds of

Q. What is the first of them?

A. When a man humbled vnder the

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burden of his fins (0) doth acknowledge o Efa 55. 1. and feele that he stands in great need of loh.7.27. Christ. Q. What is the fecond?

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A.An(p)hungring defire and a longing Reu. 21. 66. to be made partaker of Christ and all his merits.

Q. What is the third ?

Heb.4.16. A. A (9) flying to the throne of grace from the fentence of the law pricking Koin S. the conscience.

Q: How isit done?

A. By praying, with fending vp loud Luke 15. cries for Gods fauour in Christ, in the Mat. 15. 12. pardoning of fins : and with feruent per- 27, &c. severance herein, till the desire of the Act.8.22. 2 Cor. 12.8.

heart be granted. Q. What followeth after this?

A. God then f according to his mer-f Matth 7.4 cifull promife, lets the poore finner feele Efa.65.34. the affurance of his love wherewith hee lob 33. 26. loueth him in Chrift, which affurance is alinely faith.

Q. Are there divers degrees and meafures of true faith?

t Rom. 1. 17 A. t Yea. Q. What is the least measure of true. Luke 17. 5. faith that any man can haue?

A. When a man of an humble spirit;

u Efa 43. 2. by reason of the (w) littlenes of his faith, Mat. 17. 20. doth not yet feele the affurance of the Luke 17. 5. forginenes of his fins, & yet he is perswaded that they are pardonable; and therefore he defireth that they should be par-

> to pardon them. Q. How do you know that fuch a man

> doned, and with his heart prayeth to God

or a dell p hach faithe x Rom.8. A. Thefe(x) defires and prayers are tefti-25, 26. monies of the Spirit, whose property it Gal.4. 6. is to stirre vp a longing and a lusting after Matth. 5.6. heauenly things, with fighes and groanes

for Gods fauour and mercy in Christ. (7) y Rom. 8. 9. Now where the Spirit of God is, there is Eph.3.117. Christ dwelling: and where Christ dwelleth, there is true faith, how weake foe-

uer it be.

Q. What is the greatest measure of faith?

A. When a man daily increasing in faith, comes to bee a fully persmaded of

Gods loue in Christ towards himselfe particularly, and of the forgiuenes of his Cant. 8.6.7.

owne finnes.

Rom.8.

b 2 Tim.4.

38,39.

7,8.

Q. When shall a Christian heart come to this full affurance?

Pfal.23.6. A. Not(b)at the first, but in some conwith 1, 2, 3. tinuance of time, when hee hath beene 4-verfes

is

of Christian Religion. well practifed by repentance, and hath had divers experiences of Godslove vnto him e in Christ: then after them will appeare 1in his heart the fulneffe of pertwalton, which is the ripeneffe and ftrength of Rom. 4. r-A. No: For God who is posted attint b 19.20,21. Q. What benefits doth a man receive by faith in Christ? and and are a frow an A. Hereby hee is instified before 1. Cor. r. God, and fanctified.

Q. What is this, to be instified before Rom.4.3. tiit God ? cr A. . It comprehendeth two things : 'Rom. 8.33. ses the first, to be cleared from the guiline fe 7) and punishment of sinne: the second to be 13 accepted as perfectly righteous before elrather defcend into his owne headoo e-Q. How is a man cleared from the guiltinesse and punishment of his finnes? A. By Christs fufferings and death Coler. 21 vpon the croffe. How by the object 1.lon.1.7. Q. How is he accepted for righteous of lfe before God ? A. By the & righteousnesse of Christ \$1.Cor.5.11 118 imputed to him? Q. What profit comes by being thus me instified? A. Hereby h and by no other meanes h Rom 5.27 nin the world, the beleeuer shall be accep- Apoc.21.17 enc

Efa. 64. 6.

Job 9. 3.

ted before Gods Indgement feat, as worthy of eternal life by the merits of the same righteousnesse of Christ.

Q. Doe not good workes then make

vs worthy of eternall life?

A, No: For God, who is perfect righteousnesse it selfe, will find in the best workes we doe, more matter of damnati-LPC 147.2. on then of faluation : and therefore kwe must rather condemne our felues for our good workes, then looke to bee instified

before God thereby. Q. How may a man know that hee is

institled before God?

A. He neede not afcend into heaven to 1Rom, 8.1, fearch the fecret counfell of God: 1but

Joh. 13.9. rather descend into his owne heart to fearch whether he be funtlified or not.

Q. What is it to be fanctified?

A. It comprehendeth two things: the first, to bee purged from the corruption of his owne nature: the fecond, to be indued with inward righteoufnesse.

Q. How is the corruption of sinne purged?

A. Bythem merits and power of Christs m Rom.6.4 death, which being by faith applied, is as

an corrafine to abate, confume, & weaken the power of all finne.

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affliction?

A. (*) Experience of Gods loue in

Christ; and so increase of peace of con
Cor. 1.5. science, and soy in the holy Ghost.

Q. What followeth if in any temptation he be ouercome, and through infirmity fall?

Mat. 26.75. ued for no other cause in the world, but for this onely, that by his sinne he hath dis-

pleased God, who hath beene vnto him a most mercifull and loning Father. Q. What signe is there of this sorrow?

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A. The true signe(x) of it is this, when a man can be grieved for the very disobedience of God in his evill word or deede, though he should never bee punished, and though there were neither heaven nor hell.

Q. What followeth after this forrow?

A. Repentance(y) renewed a fresh.

Q. By what signes will this repentance

A. By(z) seuen. 1. A care to scatte

the finne into which he is fallen. 2. An

y 2 Cor. 7.

of Christian Kettgion. vtter condemning of himselfe for it, with a crauing of pardon. 3. A great anger against himselfe for his carlesnesse. 4. A feare left he should fall into the same sin againe. 5. A desire euer after to please God. 6. A zeale of the fame. 7. Revenge vpon himselfe for his former offence. The fift Principle expounded. Q. What outward meanes must wee vse to obtaine faith, and all bleffings of God which come by faith? A. The preaching (a) of Gods Word, a Pro.29.18 and the administration of the Sacraments, Rom. 10.14. and Prayer. Q. Where is the Word of God to be 2 Tim. 3.16. found? A. The whole Word of God, needfull to faluation, is fet downe in the holy Scriptures. Q. How know you that the Scriptures are the Word of God, and not mens policies? A. I am assured of it: first(b) because b Eph.I.12. the H. Ghost perswadeth the conscience that it is fo. Secondly, I fee it by experience: for the preaching of the (c) Scrip-cHeb.4.12. tures have the power of God in them I Cor. 14.15 to humble a man, when they are prea-

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Sire Principles ched, aud cast him downe to hell, and afterward to restore and raise him vp againe. Q. What is the vse of the Word of God preached? dRom. 1.17 50 A. First, it d breedeth, & then it increa-2 Cor. 2. 16 feth faith in them which are chosen to Heb.4.2. faluation: but vnto them that perish, it is by reason of their corruption, an occasion of their further damnation. Q. How must we heare Gods Word that it may be effectuall to our faluation? A. We must come vnto it with hunger-bitten hearts, having an appetite to the word; we must marke it with attention, receive it by faith, submit our selves

e Jam. 1. 19

A. We e must come vnto it with hunA. 16. 14. ger-bitten hearts, having an appetite to
the word; we must marke it with attentiEsay 66. 2.
Luke 2. 51.
Psa. 119. 11

vnto it with feare and trembling, enen
then when our faults are reprodued: lastly, wee must hide it in the corners of our
hearts, that we may frame our lives and
conversation by it.

What is a Sacrament?

A. Af signe to present, a seale to con-

Gen. 17. 11 firme, an instrument to convey Christ Gal. 3. 1. and all his benefits to them that doe beiege in him.

Q. Why must a Sacrament represent

the mercies of God before our eyes?

A. Because we are dull to conceine and

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of Christian Religion. 33 to remember them. Q. Why doe the Sacraments feale vnto vs the mercies of God? A. Because we are full of vnbeliefe and doubting of them. Q. Why is the Sacrament the inftrument of the Spirit to conuey the mercies of God into our hearts? A. Because we are like Thomas, wee will not beleene till we feele some meafure in our hearts. Q. How many Sacraments are there? A. Two g and no more: Baptifme, by g I Cor. 10. which we have our admission into the true 1,2,3,5. Church of God, and the Lords Supper, by which we are nourithed and preferued in the true Church after our admission. Q. What is done in Baptisme? A. (b) In the affembly of the Church h Act. 2. 38. the conenant of grace betweene God and Act. 22. 16. the party baptized, is folemnely confir-Mar. 28. 19. med and fealed. Q. In this couenant, what doth God promise to the party baptized? A. (i) Christ, with all blessings that i Gal. 5. 21. come by him. Q. To what condition is the party baptized bound? and A. To(k) receive Christ, and to repent k Mat. 1.5, to of his finnes.

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felues, in that they doe not keepe the condition of the couenant; to receive Christ by faith, and to repent of all their sinnes.

Q. When shall a man then see the effect of his baptisme?

kHeb10.20 A. At(k) what time focuer he doth re1 Pet.3.21. ceiue Christ by faith, though it bee many
yeeres after, he shall then feele the power
of God to regenerate him, and to worke
all things in him, which hee offered in
baptisme.
Q. How if a man neuer keepe the condition to which he bound himselfe in bap-

Deur.23. A. His damnation(1) shall be the greating.
21,22. ter, because hee breaketh his vow made
Eccles. 5. 4. to God.

tifme?

Q. What is done in the Lords Supper?

A. The

A. The former couenant folemnely ratified in Baptisme, is renewed (m) in the m 1 Cor. 11.

Lords Supper, betweene the Lord him-23, 24, 25.

Selfe and the receiver.

Q. What is the receiver?

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A. Euery one(*) that hath beene bap-1 Cor. 11. tized, and after his Baptisme bath truly 28,31. beleeued in Christ, and repented of his Math. 5.23, sins from his heart.

Q. What meaneth the bread and wine, the eating of the bread, and drinking of the wine?

A. These outward actions (o) are a se-1 Cer. 10. cond seale, set by the Lords owne hand vnto his couenant. And they doe give every receiver to vnderstand, that as God doth blesse the bread and wine, to preserve and strengthen the body of the receiver: so Christ apprehended and received by faith, shall nourish him, and preserve both body and soule vnto eternall life.

Q. What shall a true receiver feele in himselfe, after the receiving of the Sacrament?

the increase of his faith in Christ, PI Cor. 10. the increase of fanctification, a greater 16, 17. & measure of dying to sinne, a greater care 11. 24. to line in new nesses of life.

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of Christian Religion. rall life: 5. That he may be justified and e V. ng ch be at peace with God: 6. That by the fVI. power of God hee may bee strengthened against all temptations. ie-Q. What is Faith? e-A. A. & perswasion, that those things g Amen. nd which we truely defire, God will grant them for Christs sake. 3 The fixt Principle expounded. Q. After that a man hath led a short life in this world, what followeth then? A. Death, which is the parting a funder in of body and foule. er Q. Why doe wicked men and vnbeis leeuers die A. That their bodies may goe to the is earth, and their (b) foules may be cast in-h Luke 16. 22,23. to hell fire. nd Q. Why doe the godly die, feeing Christ by death hath ouercome death? ın A. They dye for this end, that (i) their i Luk. 23.43 bodies may rest for a while in the earth, Act. 7.60. and their foules may enter into heaven 1Thef.4.13 immediately. I Cor.15.5. 2 Q. What followeth after death? d A. The day of Iudgement. l, Q. What figue is there to know this day from other dayes? A. k Heaven and Earth shall be confu-k2 Per. 3.

Sixe Principles 18 med with fire immediately before the comming of the Iudge. Q. Who shall be Iudge? A. Iesus Christ the Sonne of God. Q. What shall bee the comming to Iudgement? A. Hee shall come 1 in the clouds in 1 1. Theff.4. great maiesty and glory, with infinite 16,17. company of Angels. Q. How shall a man be cited to indge-A. At the "found of the trumpet, the m Mat.24. lining shall bee changed in the twinkling \$I. of an eye, and the dead shall rife againe, c-1. Cor.15. 51,52. uery one with "his owne body: and all " lob 19.26. shall be gathered together before Christ: and after this, the good shall bee seuered . Math 35. from the bad, o these standing on the left hand of Christ, the other on the right. 33,33. Q. How will Christ try and examine cuery mans cause? A. The P bookes of every mans doings P Reu. 20.12 shall be laid open, mens consciences shall Dan.7.10. be made either to accuse them, or excuse them, and every man ih all be tryed by the workes which he did in his life time, because they are open and manifest signes 9 of faith or vnbeliefe. 1 lob 3.18. Q. What sentence will hee give? and 5.20.

A. He will giue 4 sentence of saluation 4 Matth. 15. to the elect and godly, but hee will pro- 34,41. nounce sentence of damnation against vnbeleeuers and reprobates.

Q. What state shall the godly bee in after the day of Judgement?

A. They shall continue for ever in the highest heaven in the presence of God, having full fellowship with Christ Icsus, and reigning with him for ever.

Q. What state shall the wicked be in Mat. 25.34 after the day of Judgement? Apoc. 21.34

A. In eternal perdition and destructi- 3,4.

Q. What is that?

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A. It stands in three things especial-stands in three things especial-stands in three things especial-stands is 1. a perpetuall separation from Gods 9. comfortable presence: 2. sellowship with Esa. 66.24. the deuill and his angels: 3. an horrible Apoc. 21.8. pang and torment both of body and soule, arising of the feeling of the whole wrath of God, powred forth on the wicked for euer world without end; and if the paine of one tooth for one day be so great, endlesse shall be the paine of the whole man, body and soule for euer and euer.

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ANÆ PIETATIS
PRIMA INSTITUTIO
ad usum scholarum

Latine scripta.



Apud Joannem Dalum.

Cum gratia & Privilegio Regia Masestatis.

1581.